

The Indiana Teamster

"Serving the Indiana Teamster Movement"

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No. 5

OMAR INCREASES INSURANCE FOR ALL EMPLOYEES



The new insurance plan for Omar Bakeries, Inc., giving increased benefits to all employees, was explained by company officials in the Indianapolis office of the company as they and employee representatives sat around the table. Pictured, left to right, are: John Sexton, Louis Schwab, David Van Braun, production manager; George

Frieje, of Bakery Workers Union No. 372; C. E. Davis, of Teamsters Local 188; E. A. Christoffel, district manager; Marvin Hancock, chief steward of Local 188; Ralph Wade, Anthony Pierce, Hubert Nally, S. E. Mathews, personnel manager, and James Ashley, of the Operating Engineers, No. 103. (Story on Page 4.)

Local 691 Gets 4 New Contracts; Negotiates for Several More

We have recently completed negotiations with C. D. Kenny with a 10 cent increase across the board and paid vacation plan.

Porcelain Steel (Connersville) contract settled with 5 cents to 10 cents increase and much improved insurance and hospitalization plan.

Peoples Coal Co. of Lawrenceburg settled with a 5-cent increase across the board. John L. had us stopped in trying to force a larger increase. The company is practically out of coal.

In negotiations with Bursley & Co. the company is flatly refusing any kind of an increase.

The Rex Manufacturing Co. of Connersville has offered the drivers approximately 9 cents increase, including 3 cents on paid insurance plan and 6 cents in wages, which was refused at a meeting held Tuesday, February 7, in Connersville.

All construction agreements are open for negotiations for a wage increase.

President Wayne Watkins is back on his job after recovering from an operation at Lexington, Ky.

Lee Jarvis, steward at National Container Corp., Aurora, "What happened, Lee, did that pole jump out in the road in front of you?"

Agreement has been reached with Seagram Distillery at Lawrenceburg in regard to over-the-road drivers, including seven paid holidays.

The dues of Local Union No. 691 will advance to \$3.00 per month beginning April 1, 1950.

Copies of the financial report for 1949 are ready for distribution to members desiring them.

The officers and members of Local Union No. 691 wish to extend their deepest sympathy to Brother Shelby Fuls in the recent passing of his mother; also to Brother Byron Steele in the loss of a sister.

News Notes from Local 193

By F. D. OWENS

Brother Maurice "Red" Day, secretary-treasurer of Local 193, is a proud papa again. A baby girl was the new addition to the family, born February 3.

Brother Rodney Baker's father has passed away. Officers and members of Local 193 wish to express their sympathy to Brother Baker and family.

You Mayflower drivers, don't forget to buy fire crackers for a certain party at Indianapolis.

Union men! Do not cross picket lines any place in the United States or Canada. Where you find a strike or trouble, consult the union or representative in that town for instructions.

Mrs. Chambers For LLPE Post

Mrs. O. B. Chambers of Kokomo has been appointed chairman of the women's division of the Labor's League for Political Education in the Fifth Congressional District.

The Indiana LLPE unit plans to set up women's divisions in other districts. Mrs. Chambers is the wife of the secretary-treasurer of the Teamsters Union, Local No. 759.

Plan Rodeo For Local 215 In Evansville

EVANSVILLE—Carroll H. Jones, safety director of the Evansville City Coach lines, has been named chairman of the Chamber of Commerce sponsored annual truck rodeo.

Eugene Winemiller of the Hayes Freight lines is vice-chairman and Ivan Martin, head of the Chamber of Commerce safety division, is secretary-treasurer.

The rodeo in which truck drivers, members of the Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers Local No. 215, compete for various prizes and honors, is proving of considerable interest to drivers and others.

The 1950 rodeo, third to be conducted by the Chamber of Commerce, will be held sometime in May, the date to be set later.

The location also will be announced later as the new traffic control system on Dress plaza, has removed Riverside drive from the list of possible competition driving spots.

The Union Label is the best compass for industry because when it is utilized labor relations never get off their true course.

LOCAL 233

Where Is Driver Andy Temple? His Mother Is Ill In Indianapolis

By ED and ED

Where is Andy Temple?

His mother is ill and her welfare requires that she hear from him as soon as possible, at least by wire or letter.

The missing Teamster is a road driver, member of a Chicago local and last worked for the Riss Trucking Co. He was last heard from by relatives in Indianapolis in August, 1949.

His full name is Ulysses Andy Temple, but truck drivers the country over know him as Andy. His brother, John W. Temple, a Kroger driver and member of Local 233 has asked that we aid him in the search.

Anyone knowing Andy's whereabouts please telephone his mother, Mrs. Mary Lingle, 249 North Beville avenue, Indianapolis, Franklin 8878 or write her at that address. Mrs. Lingle will pay tolls on any call.

Trustee Everett Chambers, who is also steward at Kibler Trucking Co., has been off the past couple weeks ill. At this writing Brother Chambers is improving.

The mechanics and garage help at the Stokely garage have joined the drivers and are members of Local 233. Their new contract is being negotiated as is one for the drivers.

The Wadley Contract is in negotiation, as is the H. J. Heinz contract. Members of these companies are asked to watch their bulletin boards for notices on special meetings.

It appears that a few members have forgotten Regular Meeting the first Wednesday of each month at 8 p. m., 28 West North St.

Election propaganda is starting. Remember your gains have been accomplished by your union through your efforts at the bargaining table and the polls. Regardless of your politics, check into the history and background of the men who run for Congress. All anti-labor legislation is aimed at you and your working conditions!

Any new noises heard near the corner of Virginia Ave. and Alabama St. should not frighten you. Brother Louis Sandelin is over his cold and can yell as loud as ever. The members at Geo. Hitz & Co. are used to the noise. It's the passers-by we're warning.

Sister Bonnie Kraft, steward at Red Dot Foods, Inc. (where you get those union made potato chips), is recovering nicely from her recent operation and is expected back to work before too long.

The BA's Wife Shouldn't Suspect Husband of Cheating on Her

Wives of union leaders have a tough time of it. There are moments when they feel their husband is more wedded to the union than he is to them. Most of them, however, have enough common sense and faith in their men to know that their husbands have a tough job on their hands and are willing to sacrifice a little, or more, of his company for the good of him and his fellow workers. They are valiant women who have played such a magnificent—and unsung—part in the building of unionism.

Unfortunately, not all wives are like this. Some of them are selfish. They want their men home at 5:30 to listen to their petty troubles of the day. They want him to sit all evening listening to more of the same. They feel that they are pretty badly mistreated if their husband falls asleep after supper when he is home and doesn't talk to them. They look upon the union as a formidable rival conceived merely to deprive them of their man's company.

They grow jealous of the union. Then they begin to get catty. They accuse their husband of spending too much time with the local. Next they begin to dig into him with venomous little innuendos about "Did the meeting really last that long?" or "All I have to say is if you'd spend as much time at home as you do at meetings—well, it looks mighty funny to me." Then they began to suggest that "Were there any women there?" or "You're sure you were with the boys all that time?"

The next thing you know, they have worked themselves into a lousy, false, state of mind. They pretend they imagine their men have been running around with other women. They accuse him of it over and over. Finally he gets about as much as he can take from the foolish woman he has married and gives her the answer she wants by lying that he has. Having insulted her husband into being foolish, she runs out and gets a divorce. Then she spends the rest of her life running around hunting for another man to make a fool of and ditch if she is too dumb to understand his job.

Don't think that description is overdrawn. It isn't. It's one of the biggest things that the labor movement has to contend with. It is all the worse because the enemies of and within labor have turned this discontent and its tragic consequence to their own use.

It is an old technique of wrecking the opposition by smashing his home. It has been employed extensively in various communities during the recent strike wave. Fortunately it hasn't worked too successfully for the percentage of dissatisfied wives isn't a great one. The wife of a leader answers the phone. A female voice asks if the husband is home. He isn't. Where is he? He's at a meeting. A meeting—are you sure? Then the voice—"Well, who is this speaking? His wife? He didn't tell me he had a wife." A click at the end of the wire—and mischief has been set afoot.

There is no way to beat these vicious people except by using common sense. Most union men are too darned busy to mess around with someone else. A wife ought to know that when he's tired enough to fall asleep as soon as he's eaten, her husband isn't a playboy. She should try to adjust her own desires and life to his.

If a wife feels she has a right to know what's going on, she should be honest about it and talk it over man to man. And the husband should be just as honest and frank. Rather than allowing a wall to be built up between them—a wall connected with the divorce court—they should build a team between themselves and together work and fight not only for the union but for their home which is the foundation of all things—including unions.

No man can fight alone. He has the right to expect loyalty at home... a loyalty that will be willing to sacrifice. A loyalty that will seek to unite rather than destroy. A loyalty that will neither stoop to inventing nor listening to the evil ideas of others or which spring from the wife's own thwarted anger.—MICHIGAN TEAMSTER.

PROTECT THE AMERICAN DOLLAR

American Labor has a keen interest in the American dollar, for labor would suffer most if the high standing of the dollar were not maintained. The dollar acts as the principal balance wheel in the financial affairs of the world today. The dollar is universally respected and sought after and it is imperative that all Americans cooperate to safeguard the high position in which our currency is held. The recent devaluation of money in other nations makes us realize the real importance of maintaining a strong and healthy monetary system.

Most of us do not understand all the complicated problems involved in protecting and strengthening the American dollar. But we should be aware of some basic factors which will add health and strength to the nation. There are two helpful things which every American can do, and these are to spend carefully and save regularly. Every American worker can help himself greatly if he will use thought and good judgment in spending the dollars he has earned, in order to get value received. Such careful spending will then permit some form of regular and systematic saving. For this habit of thrift, there is no better plan than the regular purchase of U. S. Savings Bonds. Every dollar invested in these fine bonds is a working dollar. It works for the investor and it works for the nation. It builds personal security and national stability.

We Americans value our time and work. We should also place high value upon the dollars we earn. Some of our dollars should remain with us as permanent assets. If such a pattern of careful spending and regular saving could reach into every American family, our mutual welfare in money affairs would be greatly benefited. Spend carefully—save regularly.

TOTH AGAIN HEADS LAKE COUNTY CLU

HAMMOND — Steven Toth, well known Lake county labor leader and former president of the Indiana Conference of Teamsters, was re-elected president of the Lake County Central Labor Union here in an unusually heavy vote January 24.

The only other contested office—that of three-year trustee, was won by Harry D. Cole, business representative of Teamsters Local 362.

Voting drew the largest attendance of any past election as more than 200 delegates, representing 55,000 AFL members cast ballots.

Henry Beler, the defeated candidate for president, and B. H. Lawther, Cole's unsuccessful opponent, congratulated their opponents at the announcement of the results.

Toth, beginning his second one-year term as CLU president, indicated that he believes 1950 will be an extremely advantageous one for Lake county labor.

"We have, as usual, a big job to do," he stated. "But if we all pull together, I'm sure we can better our 1949 efforts."

Thurman Crook To Run Again For Congress

SOUTH BEND—Freshman Congressman Thurman C. Crook announced he will run for reelection in the May primary.

The 59-year-old Third District legislator, heavily supported in 1948's general election by St. Joseph county labor unions, is one of six Hoosier Democrats serving their first terms in the House of Representatives. Democrats have seven of Indiana's House seats.

Crook was unopposed in the 1948 primary election and Democratic leaders generally agree he is not likely to have opposition this year.

Crook unseated Republican Robert A. Grant in the last general election by piling up a 13,000-vote plurality in St. Joseph county. This was more than enough to offset Grant's slight gains in LaPorte, Elkhart and Marshall counties. Crook polled 14,589 votes in LaPorte county, 333 less than Grant. Crook placed third as a Democratic vote-getter behind Gov. Henry F. Schricker, Prosecutor John P. Daley and Commissioner Russell Wineholt.

A former South Bend school teacher, Crook served two terms in the state legislature.

In announcing his candidacy, Crook said:

"I will unflinchingly stand on my record that has been dedicated to the welfare of labor, the farmer, small business and the common man."

The average worker is more concerned with what his union-earned dollar buys in quality Union Label goods than he is with the value of the franc.

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God Bless Tequila! It Bit Tarantula, Says 193 Driver

By SWEDE CARLBOM

On a recent trip to Nogales, Ariz., I crossed the border into Mexico and from there brought back many interesting items; among them a bottle of tequila, Mexican fire-water. On my way to Tucson I was unfortunate enough to have a blow-out on an inside tractor tire.

After two hours of hard labor, putting on a spare, I sat exhausted on the running board, panting for air. I bethought myself of my bottle of tequila. To regain my lost strength I took a big gulp out of the bottle.



I felt a violent kick in the back that almost knocked me off the running board. Hoping to alleviate this condition, I took another quick swallow. Suddenly I saw on the road, creeping rather leisurely toward me, one of those huge desert spiders they call tarantulas.

A few feet away from me it stopped, spread its many long, hairy legs wide apart. It seemed to be panting for air like myself. Its body, large as one's thumb, with a blood-red underside, moved in a regular up and down motion. Desert old-timers claim that it can jump 10 feet and that its bite is fatal to man.

I got the creeps and took yet another swig out of the bottle.

As I put the bottle down, the horrid thing suddenly disappeared. Something landed with a light thud on top of my white cap. I took off my cap and, lo and behold, I was facing that horrible, hairy monster. Two shiny protruding black eyes were looking directly into mine. I let out a yell and as I dropped the cap the hairy thing hopped on top of my head. I shook my head to rid myself of the horrid thing, but it clung tenaciously to my dome. I felt its hairy legs wrap themselves around the tips of my ears. Beads of perspiration rolled off my face as I shook convulsively with deadly fear. I tried to brush it off with my hand but it wrapped itself around my fingers.

Frantically I tried to throw it away but when it dropped to the ground it ran with lightning speed up my leg. I smacked at it, but missed. At the neck it paused for a moment, then hopped on my head for the second time.

Screaming with fear I sank to my knees. A stinging, sharp, knife-like pain ran through my brain. I fell forward. As I hit the ground the earth split open. Straddling a wide cavity I looked in a depth of darkness. The gap widened. I tried to hang on to the broken edges but my strength failed. I plunged into oblivion. The earth closed above me. I felt my bones and head being crushed, I screamed, I fainted, and I am sure I died.

As the sun arose over the distant mountain peaks, announcing a new day, faint life began to stir within me. I found myself lying prostrated, face downward, buried in the desert sand. My shirt and trousers were wet from the dew of the night.

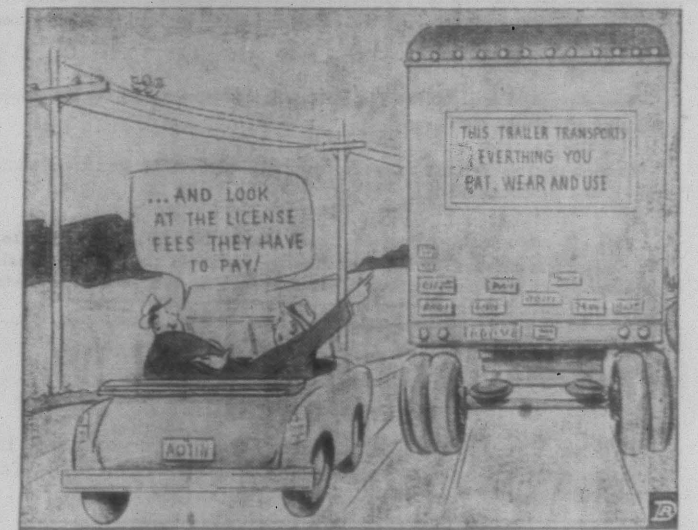
As my feverish brain began slowly to function, the events of the horrid night with a hairy tarantula passed before me. I sprang to my feet. As I did my broken and battered dome seemed to split in a dozen places. Cautiously I felt the top of my head. The hairy monster wasn't there. That was some relief.

With my stomach full of butterflies, their fluttering wings brushing against my insides, I sat down on the running-board. Holding my head, which by now had grown to the size of a coal bucket, I counted seventeen pink elephants walking by. None gave me a sympathetic look—and me a Republican!

Bewildered, I sat for a long while looking at the tipped-over tequila bottle. I began to ponder. I tried hard to think. Which one of the two had bitten me, the tequila or the tarantula?

As my bones began to heal and my head shrank back to its normal size I made a resolution. Next time, when in the mood for firewater, I will keep to our native stuff. I am sure I much prefer a good old-fashioned snake bite than the horrible bite from a tarantula.

P. S.—I know you will ask me what became of the tarantula. Well, when I woke up it had woven a web over me as big as a 9x12 rug. I found the tarantula underneath my van on its back, sound asleep. Its many hairy legs were spread in all directions. It had slurped up some of the stuff spilled from the bottle. It also had been bitten by the tequila.



Tomorrow morning's fresh bread, green vegetables from Florida and California, penicillin for the local hospital, parts for your car or dozens of other items may make up the loads on the trucks that roll over the highway day and night. The driver is doing a job to serve America. It is not a pleasure jaunt, through rain and sleet, fog and snow.

Trucks have brought progress to America, necessities and luxuries right to the door of every neighborhood in the country. Moreover they pay more than their share in gas tax, weight taxes and license fees as the tags plainly show. Safety and courtesy have top priority in trucking. When you need help look to the truck driver. He always has time.

Waiting Wife of a Teamster Pens Safe-driving Philosophy

Like so many other Teamsters' women, Laura Custer Sheats of Dublin, Ind., is a waiting wife. She waits and waits.

Recently while waiting for her husband, William Sheats, who drives for the Rinehart Transfer Co. of Connersville, she expressed her thoughts in "Truck Driver's Wife."



MRS. SHEATS

The poem is published currently in "The Fifth Wheel," the truckers magazine, in a page display, complete with picture of the author and her footnotes on how she came by the inspiration.

"The poem is most timely," says "The Fifth Wheel," "in view of the fact that several Indiana trucking companies recently have taken steps to enlist the aid of their drivers' wives more directly in the safe-driving program.

In answer to questions by the truckers' editor, Mrs. Sheats explained that her husband was to deliver a load of steel to a certain town and phoned her to meet him there, so they could have a little time together. She caught a bus and went to a hotel to wait.

"That night was foggy," said Mrs. Sheats. "A festival had contributed to too many motorists who had mixed their gasoline with whiskey. The hours dragged by. My Bill should have arrived from the mill hours ago.

"He has put the big ones' over the road for several years and has never 'stacked' one yet. Being in a strange town, in a strange bed, I began to worry as to his safety.

"Being a writer, it was the most natural thing in the world to put into words what I was feeling. So while I waited I wrote 'Truck Driver's Wife.'

"Just as it began to get daylight he arrived. He had had the good sense to wait until the fog lifted and he could see to drive safely. I was glad he did. A tardy husband is better than a dead one, I'd say!

"My husband has often said a happily married man makes the best truck driver. He will take fewer chances, such as drinking, free wheeling, speeding, etc., when he knows his safety is of supreme importance to a certain someone. He will be more alert in detecting road hazards—more efficient in coping with them when his mind is not distracted with worry about things at home. He needs to feel sure that whatever time he is away she is keeping the home-fires burning and loving him and no one else. He will deliver his load and get back quicker when there is a pair of loving arms waiting to comfort him.

"A wise man once said: 'They also serve who only stand and wait.'

"A 'waiting wife' can best serve her man if she will see to it that he is happy when he leaves and she is happy when he returns."

THE TRUCK DRIVER'S WIFE By LAURA CUSTER SHEATS

I wish I knew what the weather is like, where my man is,
out on the road.

Though his truck is big and his brakes are good, treacherous steel is to be his load.

Oh the humming wheels on the winding road, is the life he loves I know,

So I kiss him and send him on his way, when he says:
"It's time to go."

But I wish I knew what the road is like, whether the pavement is smooth and dry,

Or menaced by blankets of blinding fog, and drunken drivers whizzing by.

He loves the hum of the turning wheels, like a sailor loves the sea,

I bid my lonely heart be still, the road that takes him leads back to me.

Oh the sky is dark and the night is long, as my lonely vigil I keep,

I can only hope, for I cannot know, and it does no good to weep.

So I'll bow my head and learn to pray:
"Watch over my man on the broad highway."

SPECIAL WARNING! CAPEHART OUT TO BUY ANOTHER TERM

Senator Homer E. Capehart wants to be re-elected in 1950.

His re-election would add insult to injury which he has already caused the people of Indiana. His every vote has been with the Chamber of Commerce in behalf of the rich and against the interests of people who sweat for a living. He has betrayed you and you and you.

Get ready then to vote for anyone who runs against Capehart. If you are a Republican, do your bit and oppose his re-nomination.

The department store newspapers will glorify Capehart if re-nominated and, together with the big Taft-Hartley magazines, (NAM subsidized) they will scream for his return to Washington.

They will quote him as being friendly to organized labor, which he is when talking to labor leaders but not when voting in the United States Senate.

They might even have the temerity to call him statesman, couple his name with illustrious men.

But Capehart is no statesman by education or any other qualification. He is a Babbitt, just a political playboy with a juke box full of money to buy elections.

You can't make a silk statesman out of a sow's ear.

SMITH, 59 OTHER OMAR MEN HONORED

William A. Smith, of Teamsters Union No. 188, who has served Omar, Inc., as a routeman in Indianapolis since November 19, 1919, was among 60 employees who received service awards at the company's annual dinner, January 24.



(Times Photo)

Mr. Smith received a combination console radio and record player as his 30-year service award. He was pictured in "The Indianapolis Times" in connection with the awards and a week later was the subject of a feature story in that newspaper written by Marion Crane.

In part this story says: Every time youngsters going home from School 44, at 2033 Sugar Grove avenue, see "Red" Smith's big, red Omar truck rolling down the street, they give out with a lusty "Hi, Red."

They want him to see them and wave and smile as he always does.

William Alva Smith, 1769 Beeler street, has delivered bread and pastries to Indianapolis homes for 30 years. Of those 30 years, the last 28 have been in the same neighborhood.

Daily deliveries for Omar Bakeries, Inc., have brought Mr. Smith into close contact with neighbors along the route. He has watched children become adults and marry, and now watches their children grow.

On his route between Riverside Drive and Stadium Drive from 18th to 25th streets, he has served, in some cases, three generations. Most of his customers wouldn't recognize Mr. Smith by his real name. His fair complexion and red hair gave him a nickname.

Mr. Smith enjoys his work. He likes to talk with his customers and laughs when they tell him they've seen his picture in the paper.

"Aw, that wasn't me," he says. "It must have been somebody else."

Mr. Smith's parents brought him to Indianapolis from Dupont when he was five years old. He grew up here and worked at Kingan & Co. four years before he joined Omar November 19, 1919.

When he decides to give up his route, which he doesn't intend doing for a long time yet, he is going to settle down on his 72-acre farm three miles south of Pittsboro.

But he's just 57, so why quit? He's got plenty of time yet.

Other members of Local Union No. 188 honored at the Omar dinner included:

Oscar Kramer, 15-year service award.

Kenneth G. Darnell, Carl Poe, Finnis E. Andrews, 10-year service awards.

Lawrence Eagan, James E. Staggs, Nolan Mathews, Paul S. Wykoff, George Wilson, A. J. Morgan, Charles W. Zimmerman, A. O. Leverett, Ralph Hodgson, John Hartzburg, J. C. Everling, Jr., Raymond E. Adams, Noble W. Savage, Thomas J. Hanlon, Donald Sweeney, Warren L. Zerbe and Herbert D. Small, 5-year service awards.

CLU Welcomes 5 of Local 298

MICHIGAN CITY—New delegates accepted and installed in the Central Labor Union here included Charles Quinn, Robert Crull, Steven Low, Anthony Schaiton and Gerhard Reuer, all of Teamsters Union No. 298.

CLU President Michael Joseph conducted the installation.

When you ask the blessing don't forget to include thanks for the Union Label.

There is no more fitting link for labor-management relations than the Union Label!

Up to Date with Local No. 188 By CLARA WILHELM

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Davis are enroute to New Mexico where their presence is needed to settle Mrs. Davis' mother's estate which includes several pieces of property in Albuquerque and a 1,960-acre cattle ranch on which Mrs. Davis was born. This ranch is located about 60 miles from the nationally known Raton Pass.

During Boss man's absence, Brothers Dick Kinnaman and Paul Elzea will be on 24-hour shifts.

At a recent special meeting for retail bread sales drivers, the Omar members appointed Marvin Hancock as their chief steward, with Brothers Raymond Adams, Raymond Boone, Kenneth Darnell and Gayle Barlow as assistants. These are a fine bunch of boys, and will look after their duties as stewards very ably.

Colonial Baking Co. appointed two new stewards over their sales drivers, in the persons of Thomas Davis, over the city drivers, and Dick Pritchard over the country drivers. Call on us any time, Tom and Dick. We are at your service.

One of the newer stewards whom we are happy to introduce to you is Brother Harold Steinmetz at the Paul Krauss Laundry and Dry Cleaning Co. He is well liked among his co-workers and is fairminded. Good luck, Harold!

A negotiating committee has been selected by the Cleaning and Laundry drivers, covering 42 plants, in anticipation of the opening of the coming contract. President Davis asserts that in this contract, the employees will have a voice.

It's a girl at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Max Snodgrass at Fountaintown. Brother Snodgrass is employed at the Continental Baking Co. Congratulations, Max and Mrs. Snodgrass.

One of our members from Progress Laundry has been ill and hospitalized at Methodist. Also Mrs. Eugene Cooksey, wife of Brother Eugene Cooksey, a Progress Laundry sales driver is recuperating from an operation. We extend our wishes for a speedy recovery to both of them.

Brother Homer Beck, one of our good members with Hostess Cake, is suffering a severe attack of arthritis. We hope with rest and care he will soon be back on the job.

Mrs. Wm. Keck, whose husband, Brother Bill Keck, is employed at Colonial, is convalescing following an operation. Good health to you in the very near future is our wish, Mrs. Keck!

One Newspaper Tells Details About Courteous Truckmen

(An Editorial from New Albany, Ind., Tribune)

Truck drivers are doing more to advance traffic safety than drivers of other vehicles, many observers believe. At least it does appear so when one stops to consider highway courtesy as practiced by many drivers of trucks in Indiana.

This was particularly brought out at the convention of the Indiana Motor Truck Association in Indianapolis. Six truck drivers were given emblems for "Mastery in Driving," at this meeting. The services these men rendered while in the line of duty and which gained for them the citations are well above the term "courtesy." They were humanitarian services.

One driver wrecked his truck to avoid hitting a car with four soldiers. Another wrecked his trailer-truck to avoid hitting a car with a woman and two children. Another risked his life to rescue a child from a burning wrecked car, and one assisted in capturing a tiger that had escaped from a circus farm.

Those deeds all come under the heading of heroic measures, but there are many little everyday courtesies which truck drivers perform which benefit the other motor traffic. Have you ever noticed how truck drivers seldom hog the road? If a following car appears hesitant to pass the truck, the driver seeing him in his mirror, signals him to come on. Truck drivers can usually be depended upon to keep on their side of the road, and that's more than can be said of a great many motorists. New Albany motorists have noticed how frequently when driving up the big hill out on Road 150, when they catch up with a truck slowly climbing that steep hill, the driver of it pulls out onto the first space he comes to and lets all the following traffic pass.

Would any other motor vehicle drivers do that? It is very doubtful. They generally pass everything on the road and are loathe to allow anyone to pass them. That is, many of them act that way. So the truck drivers should be given their due. They are becoming more and more considerate of other motorists as the years go by and it is fine that their courtesies and acts of kindness and helpfulness to others are sometimes rewarded as was done at the convention.

Mrs. Orr Dies In Indianapolis

Funeral services for Mrs. Sarah Shields Orr, 89 years old, widow of William B. Orr, were held in Flanner & Buchanan Mortuary, Indianapolis.

Mrs. Orr died in her home, 549 East 84th street.

A resident of Indianapolis 56 years, she was born near Kokomo. She was a member of Tuxedo Baptist Church.

Survivors are a daughter, Mrs. Fernie Orr Westcott, and a son, Berkey D. Orr, Indianapolis, office manager of Teamsters Local 135; four sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Reed, Ridgefield, Conn.; Mrs. Lucy Harper, Forest Grove, Ore., and Mrs. Addie Ball and Miss Merrell Shields, Indianapolis, and two granddaughters.

Another son, William S. Orr, chief clerk in the Marion County clerk's office died in 1942.

More Benefits For Teamsters Of Five Locals

About 600 Hoosier employees of Omar Bakeries, Inc. have received an increase in benefits under the company's group insurance plan, as a donation out of a clear sky by the company.

Many of the members are union sales-drivers belonging to Teamsters locals: No. 188, Indianapolis, headed by C. E. Davis; No. 369, Muncie, headed by D. E. Mahoney; No. 691, Richmond, headed by James J. Katz; No. 543, Lafayette-Frankfort, headed by S. W. Helton and Glen Rabanus, and No. 759, Kokomo, headed by O. B. Chambers.

The other beneficiaries are inside workers, with membership in the Bakery Workers Union and the union of Operating Engineers.

It is understood that the new plan carries a \$5,000 maximum pello benefit for all insured employees and their dependents. Other benefits are increased, thus:

Daily Hospital benefit from \$5 per day to \$6.

Special Hospital fees from \$50 to \$60.

Maximum Surgical benefit from \$100 to \$150.

The new scale became effective February 1, according to a letter addressed by W. J. Coad, Jr., president of the company in Omaha, Neb. to all employees the country over, including those in Indiana of the additional insurance obtained at company expense.

Mr. Coad states that:

"The company's decision to bear the cost of these improvements is another demonstration of its management's interest and concern for the welfare of each employee and his family."

O'Grady Seeks Re-election To State Senate

TERRE HAUTE—Jack O'Grady, a trustee of Musicians Local No. 25, announces that he will seek re-election as joint state senator from Vigo and Sullivan counties on the Democratic ticket.

Evansville Cabbie Sounds Fire Alarm

EVANSVILLE—Virgil Condor, Liberty Cab driver and a member of the Taxicab Drivers Local No. 11, is credited with turning in the alarm on the Hillenbrand Bottling Co. building fire.

He noticed the fire, believed to have started about 2:45 a. m., and called Night Dispatcher Clifton Givens by radio and the dispatcher phoned fire alarm headquarters.

Fire fighters from Hose Houses 4 and 10 and Squad Unit 43 answered the alarm, bringing the blaze quickly under control. The main damage according to the firemen was to bottles and cases stored on the second floor.

Taxicab Drivers Local No. 11 meeting February 6 voted to contribute \$15 to the fund for striking furniture factory employees at Jasper. The strikers, members of the AFL Upholsterers union, employees of the Hoosier Desk Co., the Jasper Desk Co., and the Jasper Office Furniture Co., have been on strike about four months.

The next big Union Industries Show will be held in Philadelphia during May in 1950. Now is the time to start talking about it!

Start a rodeo in your town and roundup the firms that display the Union Label, Shop Card and Button.



One hundred fifty thousand miles in 1949 without an accident—that's the record of these truck drivers employed by the Rex Manufacturing Co., Connersville, in whose honor a dinner was given by the company at the Country Club. Edgar Myers, Rex president, spoke, paying tribute to the men for their excellent record; and James Katz, business representative of Teamsters Union No. 691, of which all the drivers are members, spoke briefly.

Pictured are: left to right, first row—Charles Hobbs, Jesse Thompson, Harold Rosfeld, Lester Pennington; second row—Lester Sorah, Oscar Van Dyke, Henry Biddle, Sherman Myers, Robert Hamilton, Charles Corbin; third row—Delmar McCowan, William Brook, Carl Smith, Herbert Kibby, Raymond Church, Wayne Wright; fourth row—Louis Pelsor, Glen Rusk, Walter Hood, Harold Hoke (foreman), Wayne Goble, Earl Lake, James Katz.

Heard and Seen at 716

By HARRY HUDSON

We are negotiating for new contracts covering our members employed by the Broad Ripple Ice Manufacturing Co. and the Polar Ice and Fuel Co., to replace existing agreements which expire March 23 and March 4, respectively.

Contract with the Frank McCarthy Trucking Co., haulers for the Franzen Block Co., is open.

We are happy to announce that we are going to receive a substantial cash dividend from the Union Labor Life Insurance Co. At a general meeting held January 27, Brother Elliott and Brother Berger were elected to act as a permanent insurance committee, authorized to meet with the Union Labor Life Co. in regard to using the money for additional insurance for the membership. The committee will report at the general meeting, February 24.

G. L. Anderson, assistant business representative of Local 716, is out of Veterans Hospital. He is to report back February 27 for final disposition of his injury.



CHARLES MILLER

Charles Miller, head of Teamsters Local No. 417, Vincennes, and vice-president of the Indiana Conference of Teamsters, has been appointed co-chairman of Labor's League for Political Education in the Seventh Congressional District. He replaces B. Frank Yocum, also of Vincennes, who died recently. Mr. Miller's appointment was made by the State LLPE.

The Union Label, Shop Card and Button guarantee jobs, wages, hours, conditions, security, and American standards all wrapped up in one big package.

THE LEADER Celebrates 5th Birthday

Pat Hess of the Fort Wayne Teamsters and a vice-president of the Indiana State Federation of Labor, helped celebrate the fifth birthday anniversary of the federation's official publication, THE LEADER, at the Claypool Hotel, Indianapolis, on February 8.

Among others at the celebration were Bill Madigan, Associated Press; Jep Cadou, International News Service; Brown Ransdell, Louisville Courier-Times; Louis Hiner, Indianapolis News; Richard Greenwood, editor, Retail Clerks Journal; Herbert Lewis, International Typographical Union; Paul Givens, president, Stone Cutters; Peter Terzick, editor, Carpenters magazine; Louis Hutchinson, editor, THE LEADER, and Mrs. Hutchinson.

Charles Kebsch, Miss Mary Corrigan, Miss Lucia Helms and Ted Abels of THE LEADER staff; President Carl Mullen of the Federation and Mrs. Mullen; Federation Secretary John Acker and Mrs. Acker; Mrs. Mary Garner, Stanley Elliott, John Soucie, John O'Donnell, Federation vice-presidents; Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Barrett, Miss Eleanor Towers, Mrs. Soucie, Mrs. Autterson and AFL Regional Director Hugh Gormley and Mrs. Gormley.

Make Mine 3-6-9

By D. E. MAHONEY

Next regular meeting of this local union will be held Sunday, March 12, 1950, at 10 a. m., at the Labor Temple in Anderson.

DUFFEY'S SIGN CONTRACT

Brothers of Local 369:

On September 3, 1949, Local 369 entered into negotiations with Duffey's, Inc., of Anderson, and on September 5, 1949, a contract was signed. Since that date, the plant was sold to the Emge Packing Co. of Ft. Branch, Ind. It is known as Duffey's, a division of Emge's. We as drivers and members of Local No. 369, would appreciate it very much if the membership of Local Union No. 369 would patronize this company. We are the only AFL meat drivers within the jurisdiction of Local 369.

Thanks,

(Signed) V. L. Higgins, Steward.

Brother Loren Shockley of the French Steam Dye Works is back on the job after an operation. His wife, Sister Sarah Shockley of the French Steam, is in the hospital at Indianapolis undergoing surgery.

Increase of five cents per hour, retroactive to January 16, 1950, settled for all city pick-up and delivery men, dockmen and hostlers, checkers and warehousemen!

Patronize Omar, Colonial, Singer's and Continental bread. Drink Dr. Pepper products in Muncie.

Our congratulations to Brothers Ralph Gaines of the Colonial Bakery and Virgil Batt of the Hardesty Trucking. Both are proud papa's of new baby sons.

Patronize French Steam Dye Works—100 per cent union.

Contract signed for another year at Ball Stores with increase in pay to the drivers.

We're glad to see Pop Barnhart out and around again. Pop worked for the D. G. & U. Truck Lines in Muncie for many years. He underwent eye surgery and we expect Pop to be back with us in the near future.

19 Aero-Mayflowers Teamsters Cited for No-Accident Driving

Application for safe-driving awards for the month ending January 31, 1950 have been sent to the American Trucking Assn., Inc. in behalf of 19 Mayflower van drivers.

According to Ralph Magnus, company safety director, two of the drivers, Thomas R. Wright and Bruce D. Baker have clean records for eight consecutive years and Everett C. Murray and J. Hugh Taylor for five years each.

Those having two years to their credit are: Donald J. Malson, Joe Herzog, Maurice Vaughn, Harold L. Willbank, Walter L. Myers, Earl H. Carter, Leo J. Vint, Ralph C. Whitener and Hershell L. Davis. One year men are: John Balax, Thomas L. Gilliam, Lewis E. Breeden, John M. Smith, Harold T. Wilcox and Clarence C. Hudson.

A great deal of talent is lost in this world for want of courage.